The LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS

Information Bulletin

Vol. 58, No. 3 March 1999

Sound and Pictures from the Edison Companies

The LIBRARY *of* CONGRESS

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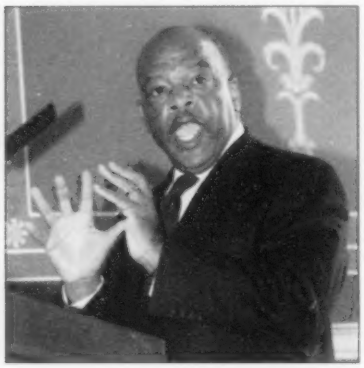
JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress



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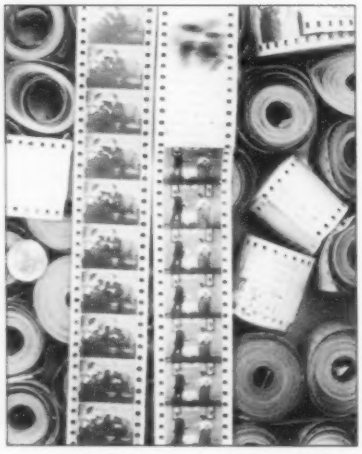

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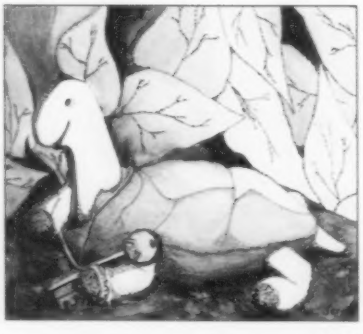

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On the Cover: Thomas A. Edison with phonograph in Edison Laboratory, West Orange, N.J., June 16, 1888.

Cover Story: The Library's Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division contains many of the artifacts of the creative and entrepreneurial talents of Thomas Edison, the "Wizard of Menlo Park." 54

Digital Library Support: The AT&T Foundation has donated $3.5 million to the Library's National Digital Library Program to support, among other initiatives, the digitization of the collections of Alexander Graham Bell and Samuel F.B. Morse. 43

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GUY LAMOLINARA, Editor
JOHN H. SAYERS, Production

Pat Fisher

Pat Fisher

Alexander Graham Bell's granddaughter Carol Grosvenor Myers presents AT&T Chairman Mike Armstrong with an inscribed photograph of Bell as Bell relative Gilbert M. Grosvenor, chairman of the National Geographic Society, looks on. Bell's great-grandson Edwin Grosvenor (right) shows his book on Bell to Leo Hindery, president of TCI, and Mr. Grosvenor's son, Alexander.

AT&T Donates $3.5 Million to Library

Foundation Supports National Digital Library Program

BY GUY LAMOLINARA

The virtual reality of the National Digital Library (NDL) Program is bringing together giants of telecommunications both past and present.

On Feb. 10, the AT&T Foundation donated $3.5 million to the NDL Program to support continuation of this initiative to bring rare and important materials to citizens everywhere. A portion of the grant, the largest corporate donation to the NDL Program, will provide for the digitization of the Alexander Graham Bell (1847-1922) and Samuel F.B. Morse (1791-1872) collections.

"The unflagging support of the U.S. Congress, the greatest supporter of libraries in the history of the world, and the private sector, led by AT&T, are bringing the Library's prized collections of Bell and Morse to people everywhere," said Dr. Billington during a reception later that day.

The gift also allowed the Library — in a project spearheaded by the Development Office — to reach the NDL Program's goal of raising $45 million in private money as part of a 3-to-1 match of Congress's $15 million pledge to the program. The $60 million will fund the program through 2000.

"We are now one step closer to ensuring that the 21st century becomes the Knowledge Age and not just the Information Age," the Librarian continued in his remarks, delivered in the Great Hall before about 400 guests, including several members of Congress.

He was followed by Speaker of the

Pat Fisher

Dr. Billington introduces Commerce Secretary William M. Daley to Deputy Librarian Donald Scott.

Correction: The Executive Director of the Stradivari Society was misidentified in the article "Masters at the Beginning of the Art" (LC *Information Bulletin*, February 1999, p. 22). The correct name is Jane Kang.

House J. Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.), who spoke about "the splendor of this building. But what we often do not see is the splendor of what is contained. What a wonderful opportunity for students and teachers to plug into the National Digital Library" Web site and see some of the important materials contained and preserved by LC.

Pat Fisher

Pat Fisher

Such lofty remarks were the order of the evening, as Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) spoke of how "someone once described libraries as a diary of the human race. There is no more complete diary than the Library of Congress. The Library's collections are an invaluable treasure not only to Congress but to America and the world." The senator also commented on how important the NDL Program is to citizens of rural areas such as his home state of South Dakota. "I can think of no better birthday present than the NDL as the Library prepares to celebrate its bicentennial in 2000," he added.

Another senator, Robert F. Bennett (R-Utah), chairman of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee, said, "I always get a thrill when I enter this building. I am delighted Congress had the foresight to restore the Thomas Jefferson Building." Sen. Bennett acknowledged Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) and former Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.) for their support of the renovation project, which was completed in 1997.

From the President's Cabinet was Commerce Secretary William M. Daley, who spoke of the exponential growth of American creativity. The number of patents applied for has surged since the time of Bell. "As many patents are issued in a year [16 million] as were issued in the first 90 years of America."

Leo Hindery, president of Tele-Communications Inc., which plans on merging with AT&T, told of his experiences in a teaching program in Harlem and how the NDL Program "evens the playing field" by allowing all students to access select Library collections.

AT&T Chairman Mike Armstrong concluded the guest speakers' program by noting that his company is "so proud to be a part of this project."

Bob Zich, director of electronic programs, and Jeff Bridgers of the NDL Program then provided a "tour" of the American Memory Web site, including the Alexander Graham Bell collection, which already has 1,400 items available on-line. Also on hand were Manuscript Division curators Leonard Bruno and Marvin Kranz, who offered interpretations of selected Bell and Morse materials that were on display for guests. ◆

An overview of the Bell and Morse collections will be published in a future issue.

Pat Fisher

Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) (top left), Speaker of the House J. Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) and TCI President Leo Hindery praised the donation because it will allow students, teachers and others to access the Library's Bell and Morse collections.

Pat Fisher

Science Manuscript Historian Leonard Bruno points out one of Bell's scientific notebooks to Bell granddaughter Mrs. Myers, who commented, "Oh, there's Pappy's handwriting." Her sister-in-law, Mrs. Melville Bell Grosvenor, joined them.

To Save the Dream for All

Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich Delivers Keynote

By YVONNE FRENCH and GAIL FINEBERG

Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich, during her African American History Month keynote address on Feb. 9, delivered a compelling call to some 200 Library employees to carry on the struggle for affirmative action into the 21st century.

Introduced in the Mumford Room by Deputy Librarian Donald L. Scott as "scholar, policy analyst, community activist and spokesperson for creative black leadership and urban politics," Ms. Scruggs-Leftwich repeated and alluded often to these verses — "There's a dream out in the land/With its back against the wall;/To save the dream for one,/It must be saved for all."

Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich

Ms. Scruggs-Leftwich, the executive director and chief operating officer of the Black Leadership Forum Inc., said affirmative action has lost ground in recent years. "I do not want the legacy of my fore-parents' contribution to this country to be erased. ... The blood, the sweat and the tears ... were the ultimate price which we paid for our inalienable rights as fully credentialed Americans," she said in her speech titled "The Legacy of African American Leadership for the Present and the Future."

"I want our mutual American and African American efforts to comprehend this legacy to be substantive enough that finally, finally, blacks will no longer need to punish whites for slavery and whites will no longer continue to punish blacks for slavery."

Ms. Scruggs-Leftwich noted the arrival of almost 800 African Americans in significant positions of authority in the federal government since 1992. Calling this a "seismic accomplishment," she said the federal government "has really begun to look like our communities across the land, to look like America."

Through their contributions and points of view, African Americans and other minorities serving the nation's institutions "do matter in the assault on racism," she said.

She said President Clinton's Race Initiative and Advisory Board of Race were too short-lived. "The president's Race Initiative is now a report. It is no longer a process. America is the poorer for that." Ms. Scruggs-Leftwich said that while the debates went on, they "established a new high for the examination of the thorny, uniquely American dilemma of the color line."

Noting that affirmative action lost ground with Proposition 209 in California and Washington State's Initiative 200, she said: "We must monitor events in California and Washington so that the American people can really see the devastating impact which 209 and 200 are having on diversity in colleges, universities and in the workplace."

The next affirmative action debates will occur during the 21st century and the battlefields have shifted from Capitol Hill to the states, she said, specifically to Michigan, Colorado, Nebraska, Arizona, New York, North Carolina, New Jersey and Indiana.

Other efforts will include promoting massive voter participation and ensuring that all are counted in the 2000 census. The effects of the census — redistricting, reapportionment and resources distribution — are critical. "These are all agenda items of great importance," she said.

"I always have emphasized that the blood, sweat and tears of our slave ancestors soaked the earth with richness and fertilized the economy to make America the great nation that it is today," she said. "But I do not believe that this knowledge of our uncompensated labor and hard-scrabble sacrifices for our country are yet widely enough appreciated to eliminate the need for Black History Month."

As executive director of the Black Leadership Forum, a 20-year-old confederation of the top national civil rights and service organizations, Ms. Scruggs-Leftwich facilitates discussion among African American leaders. A professor in George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management, she has served as deputy mayor of Philadelphia, a New York state housing commissioner and as deputy assistant director of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. She has written extensively on urban policy. She received a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania and was a Fulbright Fellow in Germany in 1955-56. ◆

Ms. French is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office. Ms. Fineberg is editor of The Gazette, *the Library's staff newspaper.*

Recounting the Civil Rights Movement

Rep. John Lewis Remembers the Struggle

BY AUDREY FISCHER

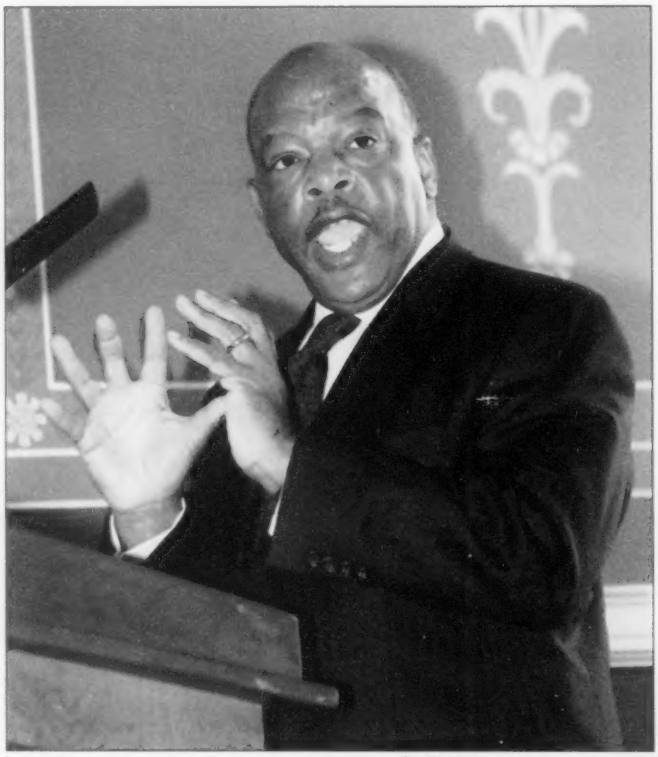
In a powerful and moving lecture held at the Library on Feb. 2, Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) recounted his coming of age in rural Alabama and the civil rights movement during the 1950s and '60s.

A key figure in the movement, Rep. Lewis has chronicled his experiences in the book *Walking with the Wind: A Memoir of the Movement* (cowritten with Michael D'Orso and published by Simon & Schuster). The American Library Association recently named the book "the best adult nonfiction title of 1998."

"I am so pleased to be here in this historic, beautiful place that holds so much information and knowledge," said Rep. Lewis. "If anyone would have told me when I was growing up that I would one day be speaking at the Library of Congress as an author, I would have said he was out of his mind."

This presentation was sponsored by the Humanities and Social Sciences Division and the Center for the Book as part of the center's "Books & Beyond" Series and the Library's celebration of African American History Month.

Born the son of a sharecropper in Troy, Ala., about 50 miles from Montgomery, John Lewis spent his boyhood days caring for the chickens on 110 acres of land his grandfather purchased with $300. "I believed that was my calling, my mission, my sacred obligation," said Rep. Lewis.



Glen Krankowski

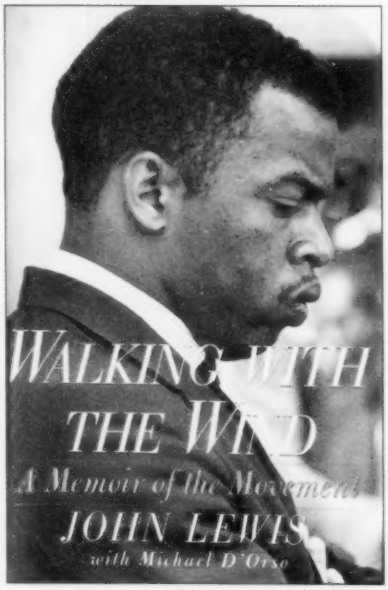
Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) tells of a childhood experience that gave him the title for his civil rights memoir *Walking with the Wind.*

But he also felt a higher calling, and he would preach the gospel to the flock. "Some bowed their heads, some shook their heads, but I don't believe any of those chickens ever said 'Amen.' But they were better listeners than some of my colleagues in Congress, and they were certainly more productive," joked Rep. Lewis.

When he was 10, he tried to get a library card from the local Pike County Public Library, but was refused because of his race. He knew he would be refused, but decided to apply anyway. This was the first formal protest action of his life, and not the last.

In a move that led to his first formal meeting with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Mr. Lewis sought admission to Troy State University in 1957. When his application received no response, he enrolled instead at the American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, but wrote a letter to King about his plight. King sent him a round-trip ticket to Montgomery, Ala., so that he could meet "the boy from Troy who wants to desegregate Troy State." This was the beginning of their personal and professional relationship that would be cut short by King's assassination in 1968.

Mr. Lewis remained at the theological seminary where he played a



leadership role in the Nashville movement — a student-led effort based on the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi that successfully desegregated the city through nonviolent means and became a model for the civil rights movement of the 1960s. In 1961 he led the Freedom Rides to challenge segregation at interstate bus terminals. In 1963 he became chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, which he helped form, and, at 23, was the youngest person to speak publicly at the historic Aug. 28, 1963, march on Washington for jobs and freedom.

As Mr. Lewis traveled through the South, he became increasingly aware of the obstacles that made it impossible for blacks to register to vote. Unfair literacy tests posed such unanswerable questions as "How many bubbles are there in a bar of soap?"

"I doubt any one here at the Library of Congress can answer that one," he said.

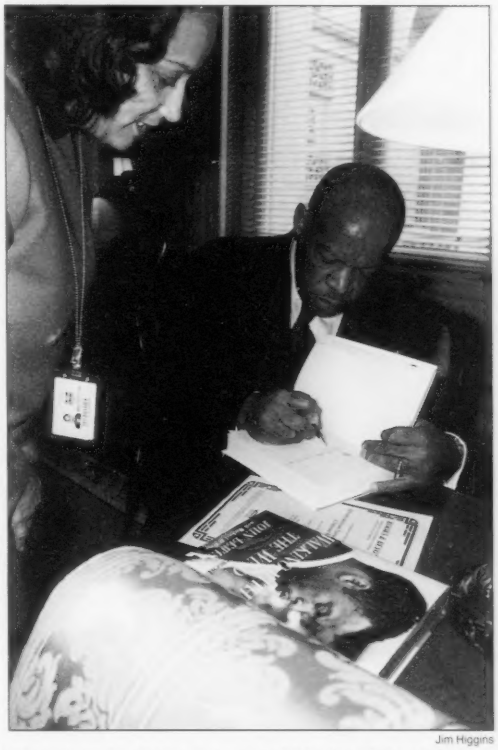
While only a small percentage of blacks in the South were registered to vote, he said, "White voter registration was more than 100 percent." Mr. Lewis applied a popular political slogan of the time — "one man, one vote" — to the grassroots movement for a voting rights act, which, after much bloodshed, President Lyndon Johnson signed into law on Aug. 6, 1965. Mr. Lewis suffered a fractured skull at the hands of Alabama state troopers during the March 7, 1965, march from Selma, Ala., to Montgomery that would be known as "Bloody Sunday."

"When the American people saw what happened on that day, they reacted with righteous indignation," he recalled. With the passage of the Voting Rights Act, "we witnessed a nonviolent revolution of ideas and values."

Through it all, Mr. Lewis never lost his belief in "building the beloved community" — an all-inclusive community in which no one is left out. The seeds of this idea were sown when John Lewis, as a young boy, was caught in his aunt's tin-roof house in rural Alabama during a severe thunderstorm. His Aunt Seneva told the children to hold hands and walk toward the corner of the house that was rising off of its foundations. The family literally "walked with the wind" to secure the house.

"So are we trying to hold the American house together," said Rep. Lewis. "The wind may blow, the lights may flash and the thunder may roll, but we must never leave the house. We all came on different ships, but we're all in the same boat."

On July 5, 1998, Lewis returned to the Pike County Public Library for a book signing. He was finally given a library card — nearly 50 years after he was first refused.



Jim Higgins

Rep. Lewis signs a copy of his book for Library Chief of Staff Jo Ann Jenkins. His talk during African American History month drew a standing-room-only crowd.

"We have come a distance, and made progress," he said. "*Walking with the Wind* is not just my story, but it is the story of all the men and women who put their bodies on the line during a difficult period in our nation's history." ◆

Ms. Fischer is a public affairs specialist in the Public Affairs Office.

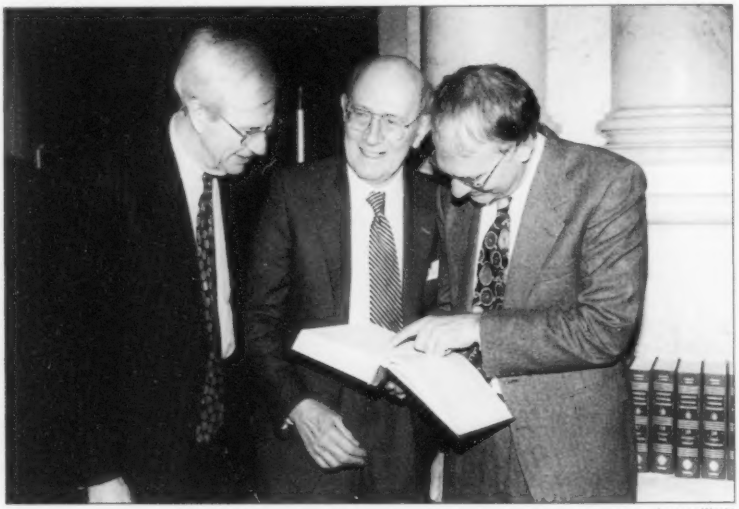
Indexing South Asia

Sage and Library Begin Second Year of Collaboration

Sage Publications is about to begin its second year of publishing *The South Asian Bibliographer* (ISSN 0971-9695), in collaboration with the Library's New Delhi Office. This journal continues the earlier *Accessions List: South Asia*, which was published from 1962 to 1996 by the Library of Congress.

The South Asian Bibliographer is published bimonthly and an annual index is published in December. This unique resource is the only printed bibliography of current books devoted entirely to publications from the countries of South Asia — Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka — and includes Tibetan-language publications issued in India, China, Bhutan and Nepal. The bibliography covers nearly all academic disciplines, with selections from various sources in the different languages of the region, making it a benefit to research institutions and libraries interested in South Asia.

The subscription price for one year is $245. Single copies of the journal are available at $43 each. Orders can be placed by e-mail at: info@sagepub.com, or by fax (805) 499-0871, or phone (805) 499-0721. ◆



Lorenzo Wright

ACLS President John D'Arms and editors John Garraty and Mark Carnes check an entry in the 24-volume *American National Biography.* Now in its second printing, the publication recently won the Dartmouth Medal for a reference work of outstanding quality and significance from the American Library Association.

Biography and the Library of Congress

New Reference Work Introduced at Library Ceremony

BY JOHN Y. COLE

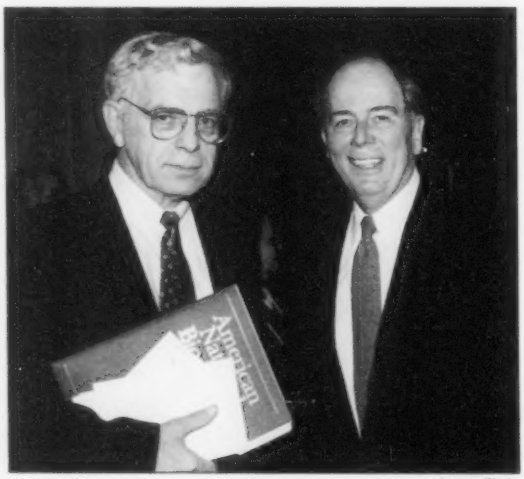
The Library's Great Hall was the setting recently for an event that celebrated publication of a reference work devoted to biographies of prominent Americans.

On Jan. 8, Oxford University Press and the Center for the Book sponsored a reception for the publication of *American National Biography.* This 24-volume reference work, 10 years in the making and containing more than 17,000 biographies, was recently published by Oxford University Press under the auspices of the American Council of Learned Societies. The event coincided with the annual meeting of the American Historical Association (AHA).

"The Library's Great Hall was the right place to mark the publication of this major reference set," said Edward W. Barry, the president of Oxford University Press. "Surrounded by the great names of the past, we were delighted to present a publication that honors the personalities that have shaped the American present. These books are nothing less than a collective portrait of America's history."

The program for the evening included many distinguished scholars, administrators and foundation officials. Winston Tabb, associate librarian for Library Services, represented the Library. In addition to Mr. Barry, other speakers included John H. D'Arms, president of the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS); Stanley N. Katz, president emeritus of the American Council of Learned Societies; Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., Albert Schweitzer Professor of Humanities Emeritus at City University of New York; Richard Ekman, secretary of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; and William R. Ferris, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

In his welcoming remarks, Mr. Tabb



Lorenzo Wright

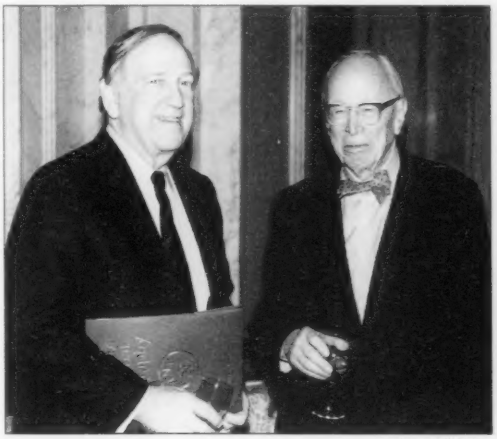
Edward Barry, president of Oxford University Press, and Winston Tabb, associate librarian for Library Services

invited AHA members to return to the Library the next day for an open house to visit seven reading rooms, hear several presentations about the collections and about doing research at the Library and to tour the restored 1897 Thomas Jefferson Building.

Individuals who shaped the Library of Congress are well represented in *American National Biography,* which contains biographies of people who died before 1996. In addition to the many essays about members of Congress, presidents and other public figures who contributed to the Library's development, there are approximately two dozen biographies of Library of Congress officials, staff members and benefactors. These include essays about seven Librarians of Congress: John J. Beckley, by Noble E. Cunningham Jr.; Archibald MacLeish, by David Barber; George Watterston, by Martin J. Manning; and Luther H. Evans, L. Quincy Mumford, Herbert Putnam and Ainsworth Rand Spofford, by this writer.

Other biographies of Library figures include: former Rare Book chief Frederick Goff, by Larry E. Sullivan; philanthropist Lessing J. Rosenwald, by Leonard Dinnerstein; author and book dealer Ephraim Deinard, by Jacob Kabakoff; former Music Division chiefs Oscar G.T. Sonneck and Carl Engel, by Christine Hoffman and Carol June Bradley, respectively; bibliographer Appleton Prentiss Clark Griffin, by John D. Knowlton; classifier Charles Martel, by this writer; cataloger J.C.M. Hanson, by Martin J. Manning; music philanthropist Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge, by S. Margaret William McCarthy; ethnomusicologist Frances T. Densmore, by Elaine Keillor; archivist John C. Fitzpatrick, by Richard J. Cox; editor Worthington C. Ford, by Robert L. Gale; folklorist John Lomax, by J. Marshall Bevil; architect Paul J. Pelz, by Frances M. Brousseau; and illustrator and benefactor Joseph Pennell, by Patricia de Montfort.

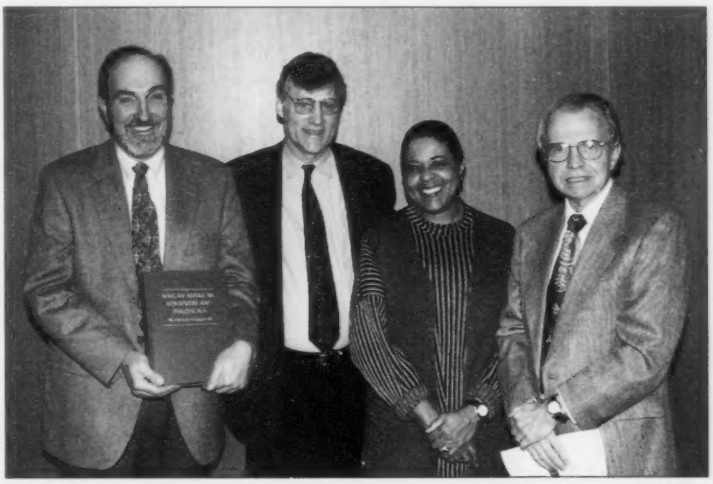
American National Biography includes 17,450 biographies written by 6,100 scholars and writers. The general editors are John A. Garraty and Mark C. Carnes, both from Columbia University. A 13-member editorial board helped design the project. Seventeen senior editors identified and shaped the substantive areas to be covered. The 24-volume work, which includes



Lorenzo Wright

Lorenzo Wright

Participants in the Great Hall reception included Oxford University Press Trustee John Brademas (left), Arthur M. Schlesinger, one of the evening's speakers, and ACLS President Emeritus Stanley Katz.



Yusef El-Amin

African American Newspaper & Periodical Bibliography Published

In a "Books & Beyond" program on Feb. 9, the Center for the Book heralded the publication of *African-American Newspapers and Periodicals: A National Bibliography* (Harvard University Press, 1998). Editor James P. Danky of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin (left) holds the 740-page volume. He is joined by William Ferris, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, which provided most of the funding, and Maurvene Williams and John Cole of the Center for the Book. ◆

five indexes, sells for $2,500. For further information about the set itself and plans for an electronic version, contact Oxford University Press or Rentsch Associates, telephone (212) 397-7341, fax: (212) 397-7381, e-mail: rentschjw@aol.com.

Biography at the Library of Congress

In his remarks on Jan. 8, Mr. Tabb pointed out that the American National Biography's predecessor, the *Dictionary of American Biography*, published in 20 volumes between 1927 and 1936, was compiled in the 1920s in special offices at the Library of Congress set aside for the publication's editors and writers.

On Nov. 9-10, 1983, at the suggestion of Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin, the Center for the Book sponsored a symposium about the writing, publishing and influence of biography. More than 30 biographers joined with publishers, editors, librarians and readers to exchange ideas about what was then — and remains today — the most popular form of nonfiction in the United States. Most of the biographers had used the Library of Congress in their research, and many were working at the Library on new books at the time of the symposium.

In his welcoming remarks, Dr. Boorstin thanked participants "for the part you have played in teaching us and entertaining us with American lives and lives of the world's heroes" and "for helping us make this great library a forum of our culture and a forum for those who have helped enrich."

He also pointed out several of the connections between the Library of Congress and biography:

"This genre has an intimate and vivid relation to history, to the resources and making of the Library of Congress. Our three buildings — named after Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and James Madison — commemorate figures who have invited some of the best talents of American biographers. Our manuscript collection is largely a collection of biographic sources. Here on Capitol Hill, of all places, we are at a point of intersection of individual and collective biography, of the characters, hopes, ambitions and frustrations of individual men and women, and vectors of social purpose."

The symposium mixed short, formal presentations with much discussion and many stories and anecdotes about biographers and their subjects. The presentations were: "The Question of Biography," by editor Samuel S. Vaughan; "The Art of Biography," by Edmund Morris, whose *The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt* (1979) had recently appeared; "George Washington in Print and on Television," by Washington's biographer James Thomas Flexner, whose work was the basis for a forthcoming miniseries about Washington on CBS Television; and historian David McCullough, whose presentation was titled "Biography in the City of Washington. Mr. McCullough, like several other speakers, remarked on the Library of Congress's rich resources for biography, pointing in particular to two "marvelous" collections in the Manuscript Division that at the time were still "largely untapped": the James G. Blaine collection and the Agnes Ernst Meyer collection.

Today, biography is central to the Library's activities in yet another way: through the collections being digitized by the National Digital Library Program. Many of the collections have a biographical focus and several of these, such as the American "life history" interviews from the Federal Writers' Folklore Project of 1936-1940, are among the most popular LC collections on the Internet. ◆

John Y. Cole is the director of the Center for the Book.

Biographers at the Center for the Book's 1983 symposium, "Biography & Books," are David McCullough (upper left), who spoke with Robert Massie; Edmund Morris; and Robert Caro and Anne Edwards with Random House editor Anne Freedgood.

An illustrated 75-page booklet based on the symposium, *Biography & Books*, was published by the Library of Congress in 1986. It includes the presentations by Mr. Vaughan, Mr. Morris, Mr. Flexner and Mr. McCullough, plus summaries of discussions on "What Is Biography?" and "Biographers and Their Subjects," and a reading list on "The Art and Practice of Biography." Single copies are available at no cost from the Center for the Book as long as the supply lasts. Requests should be sent to the Center for the Book, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave. S.E., Washington, D.C. 20540-4920. Requests should be in writing or via e-mail: cfbook@loc.gov. ◆

Fellows Arrive

Soros Foundation Sponsors Foreign Librarians

On March 1 the seventh class of Library of Congress-Soros Foundations Visiting Fellows arrived in Washington. The three-month program, designed to introduce foreign librarians to libraries and librarianship in America, is sponsored by the Network Library Program of the Open Society Institute, Budapest, Hungary. Regional Soros foundations affiliated with the Budapest office expect to use the Fellows as trainers and speakers upon their return home.

At the Library of Congress, the Fellows will receive general orientation on the Library and intensive Internet training, and will participate in a management skills institute and trainer workshop. They will attend a library conference in Arlington, Va. An additional week of orientation and training will be held at the Mortenson Center for International Library Programs at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Each Fellow will then spend seven weeks at one or more host institutions in the Washington metropolitan area. These institutions provide training, work experience and Internet access. The Fellows will observe firsthand how national, public, academic and research libraries in a democratic society operate and serve their patrons. The network of host institutions includes high school libraries for the first time this year.

Prospective candidates submitted their applications to their regional Soros foundation offices in October. The local offices administered Teachers of English as a Foreign Language examinations to test the applicants' knowledge of English and conducted interviews with the applicants. A total of 50 applications from qualified individuals were forwarded to the Network Library Program Board and the Library of Congress for final selection. A 10-member committee at the Library selected the group of 12 librarians. The selection was based on each librarian's professional merits, essay content, recommendation from his or her library director and potential to influence and promote change within their own institution or in the library community at large or both.

The 1999 Library of Congress-Soros Foundations Visiting Fellows are:

Alexandra Alexandrova, The American College of Sofia, Sofia, Bulgaria (host library: Gonzaga College High School); Ludmila Dubinkina, Aleksandr Hertsen Regional Research Library, Kirov, Russia (host library: Alexandria Library); Ieva Hermansone, Gymnasium No. 1, Ventspils, Latvia (host library: Montgomery Blair High School); Olga Iastrebova, National Library of Russia, St. Petersburg, Russia (host libraries: Freer Gallery of Art/Arthur M. Sackler Art Gallery Library; Library of Congress, African and Middle Eastern Division and Geography and Map Division); Stanka Jelenc, Central Medical Library, Ljubljana, Slovenia (host library: Georgetown University Medical Center, Dahlgren Memorial Library); Agnieszka Koszowska, Library of Silesia, Katowice, Poland (host library: Smithsonian Institution Libraries); Tunde Lepp, Central European University Library, Budapest, Hungary (host library: Library of Congress, Cataloging Directorate); Monika Mindosova, Presov University, University Library, Presov, Slovak Republic (host libraries: Library of Congress, Special Materials Cataloging Division; Catholic University of America, Mullen Library); Nora Skaburskiene, Vilnius Pedagogical University Library, Vilnius, Lithuania (host library: Catholic University of America, Mullen Library); Jadranka Slobodanac, Fran Galovic Public Library, Koprivnica, Croatia (host library: Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library); Lenka Sukova, International Baptist Theological Seminary, Prague, Czech Republic (host library: Library of Congress, Cataloging Directorate); and Marje Tamre, Concordia International University Estonia, Harjumaa, Estonia (host library: Catholic University, Judge Kathryn J. DuFour Law Library). ◆

Institute on Federal Library Resources

CUA To Host 25th Annual Event

The 25th annual Institute on Federal Library Resources, sponsored by the School of Library and Information Science of Catholic University of America, will be held in Washington July 19-30, 1999.

Frank Kurt Cylke, the academic director, announced that the curriculum will identify the role of federal libraries, information centers and data banks in the federal library community; discuss the impact of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science on federal libraries; identify resources, publications and specialized services provided by federal libraries; identify resources available through major government clearinghouses, such as the National Technical Information Service and the Defense Technical Information Center; compare the in-operation or the in-process development of the major federal library and information services; and identify and articulate the functions performed by the Federal Library and Information Center Committee. Participants will be addressed by 28 directors of federal information programs and several membership association representatives.

Information regarding the institute may be obtained by contacting the School of Library and Information Science, Catholic University of America, Washington, DC 20064; telephone (202) 319-5085. ◆

Library Presents Budget to House

Spending Plans for FY 2000 Detailed

By GAIL FINEBERG

Dr. Billington, in presenting the Library's fiscal year 2000 budget to the House Subcommittee on Legislative Appropriations on Feb. 10, laid out the Library's 21st century view of a vast collection of materials in both traditional and digital formats — all readily available to Congress and the American people.

For fiscal year 2000, the Librarian requested a total of $383.7 million in net appropriations and $33.1 million in authority to use receipts, representing a net increase of $20 million (5.5 percent) over fiscal 1999.

This increase includes $16.6 million to pay for mandatory pay raises (driven largely by a January 2000 pay raise of 4.4 percent) and price-level increases, as well as $3.4 million (net) to support "automation building blocks" and other new or expanded efforts to acquire, preserve and serve information.

Asked by the subcommittee chair, Rep. Charles H. Taylor (R-N.C.), how the Library will make a transition from paper and related formats to digital formats, Dr. Billington responded: "We have a plan. We are working on ways of getting access to the entire digital universe, not just what we are digitizing but that which is coming into being in exclusive digital format."

During the next five years, Dr. Billington said, the Library will ensure that Congress and the American people have access to "wholly re-engineered traditional collections," which will include digital formats that the Library is producing from its historical collections as well as electronic products that LC acquires from outside sources. Two automation building blocks are the Legislative Information System and the National Digital Library Program, he said.

By re-engineering internal processes with its new Integrated Library System and Electronic Cataloging Publication System, and by retraining its work force to become "knowledge navigators," the Library will make its resources available to Congress and the American people, Dr. Billington and Deputy Librarian Donald L. Scott told the subcommittee.

In support of this plan, the Library asked for $4.8 million in fiscal year 2000 for "automation building blocks" (see "Budget 2000 Statement").

Taylor thanked the Librarian for expounding on details contained in his written statement and added: "It has been my experience over the six years I have been on the Appropriations Committee that the Library has done an excellent job in trying to accomplish this with limited funds. I understand that we all could spend more money, perhaps, if we had it, but I would like to commend you."

"We are working on ways of getting access to the entire digital universe, not just what we are digitizing but that which is coming into being in exclusive digital format."

— James H. Billington
Librarian of Congress

Speaking in support of the Library's proposed fiscal year 2000 budget was American University Librarian Patricia Wand, representing the American Library Association, Association of Research Libraries, American Association of Law Libraries, Medical Library Association and Special Libraries Association.

Saul Schiderman, president of AFSCME Local 2910, spoke in favor of the fiscal year 2000 budget request. He also asked for additional congressional support of a subsidy for LC employees using public transportation to commute to and from work. The Library requested funding for this subsidy in fiscal 1993, but did not receive additional funds. LC did not request a transit subsidy for fiscal 2000.

Congressional Research Service (CRS) Director Daniel P. Mulhollan requested a total of $71.3 million for CRS salaries and expenses, including $559,052 in fiscal year 2000 to continue to hire replacement staff in the second year of a multiyear plan to ensure continuity of service to Congress as employees eligible to retire exit CRS.

Dennis Roth, president of the Congressional Research Employees Association (CREA), spoke in support of the CRS budget request and also of a $1.5 million item in Library's proposed budget to replace 20-year-old Madison Building furnishings with "ergonomically correct workstations."

American Bar Association representative Janet S. Zagorin and former Rep. William Orton supported a request for $8 million for the Law Library, including $548,852 in fiscal 2000 to hire 8.5 full-time employees to ensure adequate staffing for research and reference services, security of rare book collections and book retrieval services; and $188,250 for contractual services to keep current the filing of looseleaf inserts containing the latest laws, administrative rules and regulations, and legal interpretations.

Register of Copyrights Marybeth Peters asked for support of a total of $11.4 million for the Copyright Office, which reflects a 17 percent decrease from fiscal 1999, in anticipation of increased revenue from higher copyright registration fees. She asked for more personnel to support CORDS and to process a backlog of copyright claims; fees would offset these expenses.

James Gashel, representing the National Federation of the Blind, supported the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, which submitted a fiscal year 2000 budget request of $48 million for salaries and expenses.

In addition to Chairman Taylor, members of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee are Reps. Zach Wamp (R-Tenn.), Jerry Lewis (R-Calif.), Kay Granger (R-Texas), John

E. Peterson (R-Penn.), Ed Pastor (D-Ariz.), John P. Murtha (D-Penn.) and Steny H. Hoyer (D-Md.).

Budget 2000 Statement

The following is excerpted from Dr. Billington's written statement submitted Feb. 10 to the House Subcommittee on Legislative Branch Appropriations.

... The Library's proposed fiscal year 2000 budget supports the Library's mission and strategic plan, which charts our course into an increasingly electronic future. Libraries are a link in the human chain that connects what happened yesterday with what might take place tomorrow; they are the base camps for new discovery in the Information Age; they must include and integrate both traditional and digitized materials.

The Library's budget request totals $383.7 million in net appropriations and $33.1 million in authority to use receipts — a net increase of 5.5 percent ($20 million) over fiscal 1999. Most of this increase ($16.6 million) is needed simply to fund mandatory pay raises (driven largely by the January 2000 pay raise of 4.4 percent) and unavoidable price-level increases; $3.4 million (of the $20 million total increase) is needed to meet critical growing workload increases (net of program decreases).

Growing workload decreases total $8.25 million, including a $4.8 million decrease resulting from higher copyright fee receipts, a $2.25 million decrease resulting from two no-year projects (i.e., Meeting of the Frontiers and Lewis and Clark Bicentennial) that were funded in fiscal 1999, and a $1.2 million decrease resulting from a planned reduction in the Integrated Library System project costs.

Growing workload increases totaling $11.6 million are offset by the decreases of $8.25 million, which result in a net increase of $3.4 million. Major increases include: $4.8 million for automation building blocks; $1.6 million for a staff succession program; $1.4 million for improved collections security; $.7 million for the Copyright registration process (funded by receipts); $.7 million for the Law Library; $1.5 million for a multiyear James Madison building workstation modernization project; and $.3 million for operational funding of the National Audio-visual Conservation Center... .

The Library of Congress programs and activities are funded by four salaries and expenses (S&E) appropriations, which support congressional services, national library services, copyright administration, library services to blind and physically handicapped people and management support. A separate appropriation funds furniture and furnishings.

Automation Building Blocks

The Library is putting in place automation building blocks that will ensure a solid foundation for continuing into the next century its historic leadership role of delivering information services to Congress and the nation, setting bibliographic standards (saving libraries hundreds of millions of dollars by supplying them with bibliographic data) and providing free electronic access to knowledge and information for life-long learners everywhere.

Key automation building blocks for the future include:

- **Integrated Library System (ILS).** The ILS is scheduled to be operational at the beginning of fiscal year 2000 and will change the work patterns for more than half the Library's staff. The fiscal year 2000 budget incorporates a planned decrease of $1,197,000 (from $3,544,000 to $2,347,000), which is $270,000 less of a decrease than projected two years ago in the original budget because of higher software maintenance costs. The ILS will coordinate and make more efficient all the Library's basic functions, such as acquisitions, cataloging, and research and loan services, but will require a major redirection of resources to implement. As a result, the Library projects a slight short-term increase in its arrearage during fiscal years 1999 and 2000. The Library expects that any major savings from the ILS would begin to accrue at the end of fiscal year 2000 and begin appearing in the Library's fiscal year 2001 budget.
- **Electronic Resources Information Project.** An important phase of the transition to an increasingly electronic future is the development of an approach to handling digital materials. The Library is requesting a fiscal 2000 increase of $964,764 for an initiative that consists of two parts: (1) a three-year project, at $520,836 per year, to develop and implement policies and procedures and the access management system necessary for incorporating into its collections and services the electronic products the Library acquires from others via copyright deposit, gift and purchase; and (2) a permanent base increase of $443,928 to fund the technical staff necessary to support the handling of electronic services in the custodial divisions. Just as the National Digital Library Program provided national leadership for the transition to a digital environment through conversion of archival materials delivered on the Internet, the Electronic Resources Information Project will provide leadership in the integration of material in electronic form into our traditional operations with books and other hard copy materials. This effort is a necessary initial step and a key part of the comprehensive plan for integrating all digital collections.
- **Global Legal Information Network (GLIN).** GLIN is a cooperative international network in which nations are contributing electronically the full, authentic text of statutes and regulations to a database hosted by the

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EDISON'S GREATEST MARVEL
THE VITASCOPE
Wonderful is The Vitascope. Pictures life size and full of color. Makes a thrilling show.
NEW YORK HERALD, April 24, '96.

Advertisement for the Vitascope motion picture projector, marketed by the Edison Manufacturing Co. The device was invented by Thomas Armat and C. Francis Jenkins.

Inventing Entertainment

Sound Recordings and Motion Pictures of the Edison Cos.

By KAREN C. LUND

With 1,093 patents to his name, Thomas A. Edison (1847-1931) managed to become not only a renowned inventor, but also a prominent manufacturer and businessman through the merchandising of his inventions. His most famous inventions — the incandescent light bulb, the phonograph and the motion picture camera — have profoundly changed modern life.

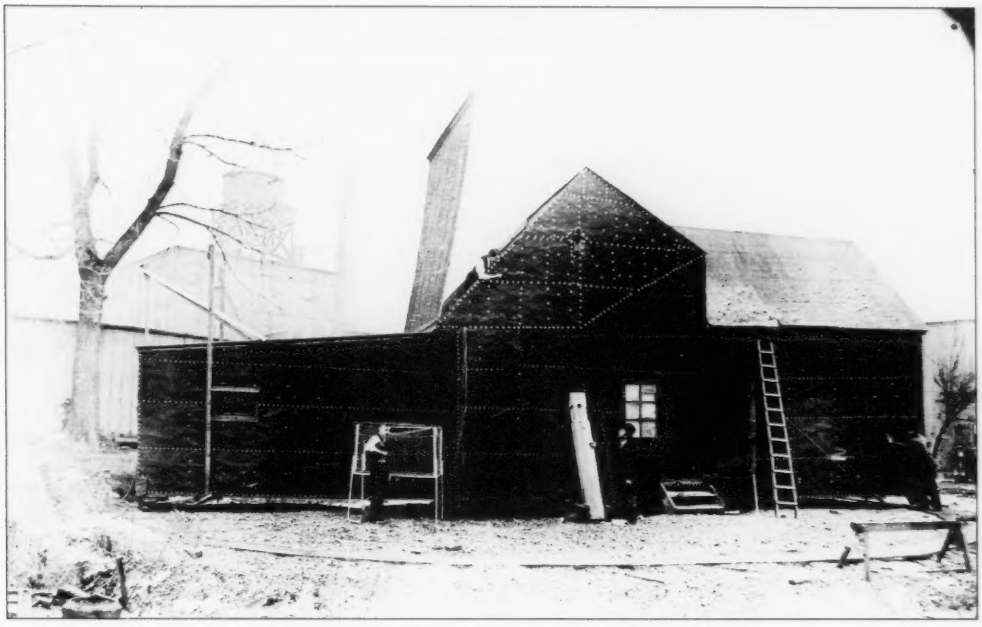
The Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division (M/B/RS) of the Library of Congress contains impressive evidence of the surviving products of Edison's entertainment inventions and industries. The division houses motion pictures, cylinder and disc sound recordings, and journals with articles and photographs pertaining to the Edison Cos. A large selection of these items (341 films and 81 sound recordings) has also been made available in the "Inventing Entertainment" collection in the Library's American Memory web site at www.loc.gov/.

Sound Recordings

Edison's early jobs with telegraph companies led him to invent many improvements to telegraph systems. It was his work with the telegraph and later with a telephone transmitter that inspired Edison to create the phonograph in 1877. It occurred to him that sound could be recorded as indentations on a rapidly moving piece of paper. He eventually formulated a machine with a tinfoil-coated cylinder and a diaphragm and needle. When Edison spoke the words "Mary had a little lamb" into the mouthpiece, amazingly the machine played the phrase back to him.

He established the Edison Speaking Phonograph Co. in 1878 to market the machine, but the novelty value of the phonograph soon wore off for the public, and Edison turned his attention to developing an electric light system. Ever the visionary, however, Edison predicted in *North American Review* in June 1878 that in the future the phonograph would be used for dictation, books for the blind, music recordings, music boxes, talking clocks, educational purposes and for the retention of telephone conversations.

While Edison had neglected the phonograph, others rushed forward to improve the machine. In particular, Chichester Bell and Charles Sumner Tainter developed an improved machine that used a wax cylinder and a floating stylus, which they called a graphophone. They proposed a possible partnership with Edison on the



The Black Maria, Edison's first motion picture studio.

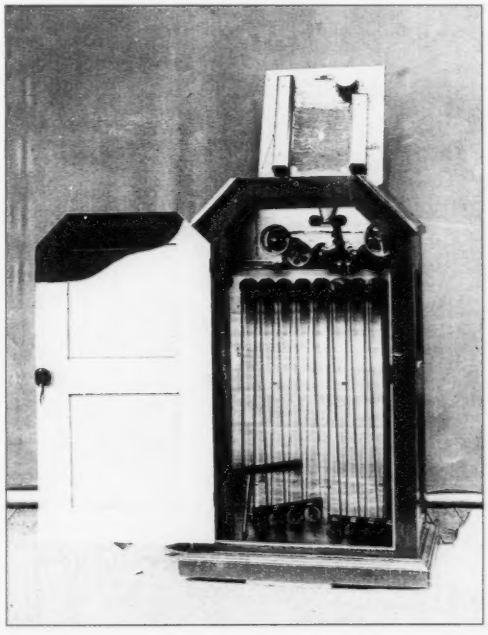
machine, but Edison refused to collaborate with them, feeling that the phonograph was his invention alone. With this competition, Edison was stirred into action and resumed his work on the phonograph in 1887, eventually adopting methods similar to Bell and Tainter's in his own improved phonograph.

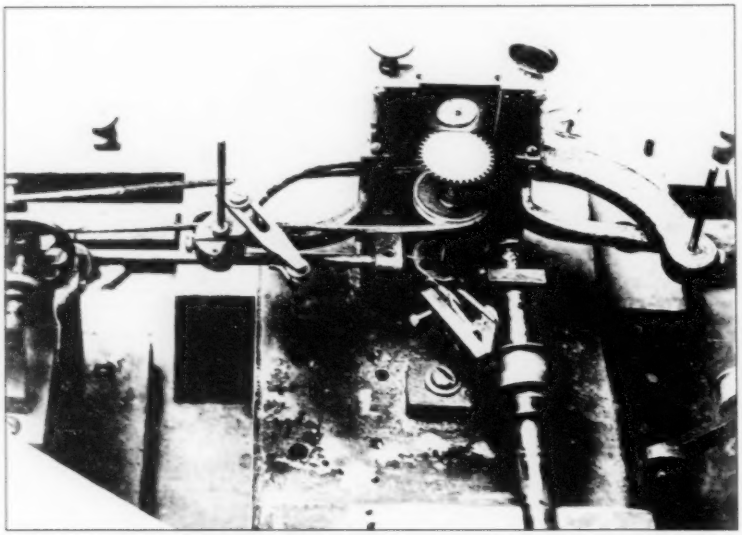
Edison's phonograph was initially marketed as a business dictation machine. Entrepreneur Jesse H. Lippincott acquired control of most of the phonograph companies, including Edison's, and set up the North American Phonograph Co. in 1888. The business did not prove profitable, and, when Lippincott fell ill, Edison took over the management. In 1894, the North American Phonograph Co. went into bankruptcy, allowing Edison to buy back the rights to his invention.

In 1896 Edison started the National Phonograph Co. with the intent of making phonographs for home amusement. Over the years, he made improvements to the phonograph and to the cylinders played on them, the early ones being made of wax. Edison introduced an unbreakable cylinder record, named the Blue Amberol, at roughly the same time he entered the disc phonograph market in 1912.

The introduction of an Edison disc record was in reaction to the overwhelming popularity of discs on the market in contrast to cylinders. Named "Diamond Discs" and touted as being superior to the competition's records, the Edison discs were designed to be played only on Edison

Edison's Kinetoscope, closed (left) and open. The viewer would look through the lens at the top of the machine to watch a film. Film was threaded on rollers as a continuous ribbon.





Close-up view of Edison's horizontal feed Kinetograph. A strip of film is inside the aperture gate in the center.

phonographs. The Edison label endeavored to produce high quality opera and classical concert recordings on these discs and arranged "Tone Tests" to prove their superior quality. At these Tone Tests, an opera singer would sing with a phonograph recording of his or her voice. The house lights would be dimmed, and the audience was challenged to detect whether they were listening to the phonograph record or the singer.

The record quality, though, did not alter the fact that the cadre of artists on the Edison label was never as impressive those of its competitors, such as the Victor label. Edison was reluctant to pay for premium talent. He had surprising opinions, too, regarding the search for operatic or classical talent. Although he was practically deaf, he took personal control of the hiring of these artists, dismissing many that were quite renowned in their field for having excessive vibrato or tremolo in their voice. Indeed, even though the celebrated Sergei Rachmaninoff made his first records on the Edison label, Edison disliked what he referred to as Rachmaninoff's "pounding" style, and a dissatisfied Rachmaninoff eventually moved to the Victor label.

In the 1920s, competition from radio caused business to sour, and the Edison disc business ceased production in 1929.

The recordings available in M/B/RS (and on the American Memory Web site) represent the variety the Edison Co. produced. One can find instrumental, popular vocal, spoken word, comedy, foreign language, opera, concert and religious recordings. The instrumental recordings feature artists proficient with certain musical instruments, such as Signor Lou Chiha "Friscoe" and his xylophone, banjo soloist Fred Bacon or Herbert Soman playing his violin. Dance music, which become very popular in the teens, is represented, as well as music from hit theater musicals of the early 20th century (*Katinka* and *The Big Show*, for example). The evidence of marimba and Hawaiian music reflects the increasing exposure of Americans to foreign styles of music after the turn of the century. Early jazz efforts are also apparent, as in selections by the Frisco Jazz Band (on the Web site: *Night Time in Little Italy* and *Umbrellas to Mend*).

Popular vocal recordings of the Edison Co. included comic songs, often performed by vaudeville artists, and sentimental ballads, which Edison termed "heart songs." Heart songs were Edison's favorite type of music, and the Edison catalog abounded with these songs expressing love for another or a nostalgia for an old way of life. Several songs also demonstrated the influence of World War I, such as *Keep the Home Fires Burning*, *'Till the Boys Come Home* and *There's a Long, Long Trail*, the latter a particular favorite of President Wilson.

Spoken comedy routines on sound recordings were, for the most part, a reflection of the acts performing on the vaudeville stage. Ethnic humor, as found in *Backyard Conversation Between Mrs. Reilly and Mrs. Finnegan* or *Cohen on His Honeymoon*, was quite popular with audiences of the time. Rural humor was another Edison staple, and was most clearly represented by the performances of Cal Stewart as "Uncle Josh." The Library contains both sound recordings and motion pictures of this popular character and his take on modern life (on the Web site: *Uncle Josh Buys an Automobile*, *Uncle Josh in a Spooky Hotel*, *Uncle Josh's Nightmare* and *Uncle Josh at the Moving Picture Show*).

Motion Pictures

Edison's involvement with motion pictures is often traced to his meeting with Eadweard Muybridge at his West Orange laboratory in 1888. Edison viewed Muybridge's Zoopraxiscope, a device that used a circular disc with still photographs of the successive phases of movement around the circumference to re-create the illusion of movement. Although Muybridge desired a collaboration, Edison decided instead to create his own motion picture camera. He wrote in a caveat filed that year with the Patent Office, "I am experimenting upon an instrument which does for the eye what the phonograph does for the ear."

The task of inventing the machine fell to Edison's associate William K.L. Dickson. Dickson initially experimented with a cylinder-based device for recording images, before turning to a celluloid strip. Patent applications were made in 1891 for a motion picture camera, called a Kinetograph, and a Kinetoscope, a motion picture peephole viewer.

In 1893 a motion picture studio, later dubbed the Black Maria (slang for a police paddy wagon, which the studio resembled), was opened at Edison's West Orange, N.J., laboratory complex. Short films were produced there using vaudeville acts of the day. These included well-known performers such as strongman Eugene Sandow, Span-

ish dancer Carmencita and acts from Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, including Annie Oakley and Native American dancers.

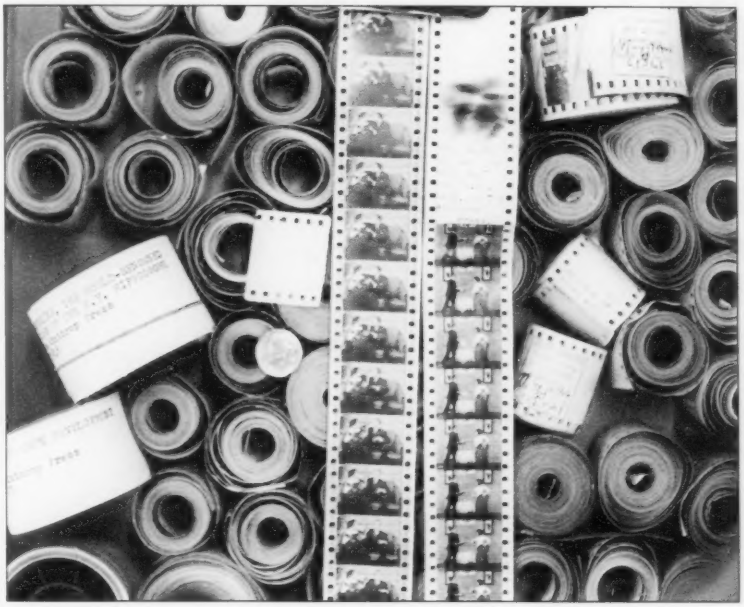
Kinetoscope parlors opened in New York and soon spread to other major cities during 1894. In these parlors, machines were typically placed in a row, and a customer could view the films inside, all for a total of 25 cents.

Edison was reluctant to develop a motion picture projector, feeling that more profit was to be made with the peephole viewers. Competition from other projection systems, however, persuaded him to market a projector developed by Thomas Armat and Charles Francis Jenkins. It was named the Vitascope and was presented to the world as an Edison invention in April 1896. The Vitascope, along with other projection systems, became a popular attraction in the variety and vaudeville theaters in major cities across the United States. Motion pictures in short time became starring attractions on the vaudeville bill. The Edison Co. soon developed its own projector, known as the Projectoscope, or Projecting Kinetoscope, in November 1896, and abandoned the Vitascope.

Experiments were made to synchronize sound to film, and in 1895 the Kinetophone was introduced. To operate the new invention, a patron looked through the peephole viewer of a Kinetoscope while listening to a soundtrack piped through ear tubes attached to a phonograph in the cabinet. The device did not offer exact synchronization and ultimately failed to find a market. The film known today as *Dickson Experimental Sound Film* in the Library's collections is one of the few examples still existing of this early foray into sound.

The early films produced by the Edison Co. were mostly actuality films — motion pictures taken of everyday life and events as they occurred. The company catalog contained scenes of vaudeville performers, notable persons, railway trains, scenic places, foreign views, fire and police workers, military exercises, parades, naval scenes, expositions, parades and sporting events. Comic skits and films relying on trick effects to achieve "magical" results were also popular.

Many film companies at this time frequently copied, or "duped," each other's films to meet exhibitors' demands for a certain product. Edison filmmakers engaged in this practice themselves, and in an effort to protect their own films from being imitated, the Edison Co. began to copyright its films. Registrations of films were sent to the Library of Congress for copyright deposit in the form of positive image paper photographic rolls. These "paper prints," along with those received from other companies, accumulated to form the collection known today as the Paper Print Collection at the Library. The first ones were deposited by W.K.L. Dickson in August 1893, but they have been lost to history. The earliest copyrighted one that still survives is *Edison Kinetoscopic Record of a Sneeze, January 7, 1894,* which records Fred Ott, an Edison employee, sneezing comically for the camera. From October 1896 onward, the company began to regularly send copyright deposits for its films to the Library.



Paper print rolls and fragments deposited for copyright at the Library of Congress

Filmmaking activities at the Edison Co. soon expanded to include scenes from around the world, such as the American West, Europe and Asia. Cameras were also sent to Cuba to film scenes of the Spanish-American War in 1898.

By 1900, however, the novelty of the moving image had faded, and vaudeville theaters put fewer films on their programs. The company faced this challenge by creating more story films. Edison films such as *Jack and the Beanstalk* (1902) and *The Great Train Robbery* (1903), both directed by Edwin S. Porter, pointed to the creative potential that motion pictures could have. Storefront theaters, dubbed nickelodeons, began appearing in 1905 as a showcase for these story films. Films were shown all day, which allowed viewers to stop in to see a film almost anytime, unlike the variety theaters. Larger theaters began to be built by the end of 1907 at the same time that many filmmakers, including Edison, began making longer, feature films.

Throughout the history of his motion picture company, Thomas Edison was frequently involved in litigation over patent claims. Suing the competition for patent infringement was a way of protecting his inventions and profits and a way to eliminate competition. The establishment of the Motion Picture Patents Co. in 1908, spearheaded by Edison and known as the "Trust," effectively formed a monopoly on the American film market for Edison and his allies.

This monopoly could not hide the

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East Meeting West

German Author Uwe Timm Describes Culture Clashes

By PROSSER GIFFORD

The 11th program in the series "Encounters with the Most Acclaimed European Writers" was held at the Library on Feb. 5 and featured Uwe Timm, who read from a recent novel to an audience in the Jefferson Building's Southeast Pavilion.

Mr. Timm read the opening chapters of *Johannisnacht*, a 1996 novel about the differences between the cultures of East and West Berlin after the fall of Communism in 1989. Recently translated by Peter Tagel and published by New Directions in 1998 as *Midsummer Night*, the novel's narrator and protagonist is a writer who takes on an unlikely assignment to write a story about potatoes.

On the trail of a former East German scholar who knew a great deal about potatoes and who left an extensive bibliography of note cards, the narrator finds himself facing several bizarre, amusing, ironic and frustrating experiences. He learns about some of the peculiar denizens of East Berlin, but never does get his article written.

Hans Günter Contzen

German author Uwe Timm

For the evening's reading, Mr. Timm read in German several pages of the opening chapter, "Napoleon's Camp Bed." The chapter was then read in English by Lane Jennings, a poet and translator from the Goethe Institute, followed again by Mr. Timm, who read a portion of the second chapter, "The Reichstag, Wrapped."

Jens Hanefeld of the German Embassy introduced Mr. Timm, mentioning that he had been born in Hamburg, studied in Paris, and earned a Ph. D. in philosophy from the University of Munich in 1971. Three of Mr. Timm's earlier novels also have been translated into English: *The Snake Tree* (1990), *Headhunter* (1994) and *The Invention of Curried Sausage* (1995).

He is known as well in Germany as an author of children's books and radio plays. A masterly storyteller, Mr. Timm combines comedy, irony, realism and magical moments in his narratives. ◆

Mr. Gifford is director of the Office of Scholarly Programs.

Edison

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fact, however, that Edison motion pictures were not keeping pace with the quality of competitors' films in terms of the advances made in narration. The company tried to improve its image by releasing wholesome and educational films, but this did not rescue flagging sales.

In 1913 another attempt to unite moving images with sound was made with the introduction of the Kinetophone. The system proved difficult to operate and was, therefore, unsuccessful. An antimonopoly ruling delivered against the Trust in October 1915 was another blow to Edison's film business, and by 1918 Edison ended his involvement in the motion picture field.

Still, Edison accurately predicted the future possibilities of the motion picture in *The Nickelodeon* in August 1910, saying that films to come would include sound and color. He extolled the educational possibilities of the motion picture, saying, "Geography, history, literature, botany, surgery and even chemistry can be taught much more entertainingly, authentically and convincingly by [film's] aid than is now possible with present methods. What child would not readily absorb a lasting impression of the people of India, for instance, and their customs through the visualization of scenes in that country? Information conveyed in that manner would be retained in memory, where days and weeks of dry reading would fail of accomplishment."

The Paper Print Collection in M/B/RS is the chief reason that the Library has one of the preeminent archives of Edison films. The Edison Co. was quite active in copyrighting its films with the Library through 1905, and its method of deposit on paper has ensured that the films exist to this day, as film celluloid would undoubtedly have deteriorated or been destroyed by now. Other more recent acquisitions in M/B/RS, including the Hendricks, the George Kleine and the Edison Laboratory Collections, contain many of the earliest experimental Edison films and later films from the teens. As such, the variety of motion pictures made by the Edison Co. is well represented when one visits the M/B/RS reading room or the American Memory Web site.

The motion pictures and sound recordings available on-line are supplemented by brief essays detailing Edison's life, his motion picture inventions and films, and his phonograph inventions and recordings. More than a hundred years later, the influence of Edison's entertainment inventions remains with us still, in no small part due to the collections existing at the Library of Congress. ◆

Ms. Lund is a digital conversion specialist for the National Digital Library Program in the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division.

Law Library of Congress. GLIN is the digital future of the Law Library, and an increase of $396,000 is requested to support GLIN's expanding from 12 to approximately 30 countries by the year 2004: an addition of three to four countries per year. The Library plans to use receipts provided by participants and sponsors of GLIN to help support GLIN development, but these receipts will not be sufficient to ensure success until a critical mass of countries is achieved.

• **Copyright Office Electronic Registration, Recordation and Deposit System (CORDS).** CORDS is the electronic future of the Copyright Office and provides the public with an electronic means to submit copyright claims and documents, which streamlines internal processing. Development, as well as testing, will continue through successive phases with an increasing number of electronic registrations over the Internet.

In the year 2004, the Library expects to receive at least 100,000 works (out of a total of more than 700,000 works) in digital form — such as census data, films, music, encyclopedias, scientific papers and legal documents. An increase of $143,988 (funded by receipts) is requested to expand the CORDS system into new formats, provide on-line customer support, support increasing digital storage needs and enhance technical capabilities.

• **Automation Infrastructure Support.** An increase of $3,250,000 is requested to fund automation infrastructure support items: (1) $1.9 million to upgrade the Library's digital voice switch, which has been in operation for more than a decade and will not be able to support the Library's growing telecommunications requirements in the 21st century; (2) $600,000 to increase computer server storage and capacity, which is necessary to meet the growing demand of the millions of transactions processed daily; (3) $500,000 to fund additional security and disaster recovery measures, which are becoming increasingly critical with the growth of on-line systems; and (4) $250,000 to support the first phase of a central financial management system replacement project.

The Library is undertaking an institution-wide planning effort to coordinate these building blocks and other digital initiatives in order to provide the most effective information services for the 21st century. The Library is also seeking advice and counsel from the National Academy of Sciences as part of our planning process. Re-engineering traditional functions and adding digital content are critical elements of the planning. The overall transition to modern electronic services Library-wide will be a multiphase, multiyear process.

Fiscal year 2000 marks the end of the initial five-year National Digital Library (NDL) program, and the Library will present, in next year's budget, its plans for the future of our digital programs. The highly successful NDL program serves as a catalyst for institutional change, in addition to making possible access by millions of Americans to the Library's vast holdings. A recent *PC Magazine* review of the Top 100 Web sites stated: "We've raved about the Library of Congress for years, and it just keeps getting better." We plan to build on our successful five-year NDL program to ensure public availability of additional high-quality content.

With regard to the Library's year 2000 (Y2K) readiness for automated operations, the Library has identified 99 mission critical systems and is on-schedule for making these systems Y2K compliant by Sept. 30, 1999. The General Accounting Office conducts regular reviews of our progress in reaching Y2K compliant automated operations and reports quarterly to Congress on our progress.

Succession Program

The Library's ability to serve Congress and the nation depends in large part on its expert staff, particularly those who have intimate familiarity with the special collections or fluency in foreign languages.

In 1996, Library Services undertook an analysis of its vulnerability to retirements and determined that by fiscal year 2004, 50 percent (1,077) of its staff would be eligible for retirement. An additional concern is the need to provide upward mobility opportunities for motivated technicians who have demonstrated their ability to move into professional positions. To respond simultaneously to both of these needs, the Library requests $1,010,016 to initiate a cost-effective Library Services Career Enhancement and Succession Plan that will give existing staff opportunities to advance to critical professional positions while also enabling the Library to recruit a new corps of junior technicians. Without the additional funding for technician positions, our newly promoted (and higher paid) curators will be forced to devote time to technician-level assignments, which would not be a cost- effective use of resources.

The Congressional Research Service (CRS) faces a similar challenge. One-half of CRS's staff of analysts, attorneys and reference librarians will be eligible to retire by the year 2006. To address this challenge, CRS began a research capacity risk assessment process in 1996 and identified the specific subject areas where staff were likely to retire in the next few years. CRS foresees reduced analytic capacity in a significant number of subject areas as early as the year 2000; these losses will accelerate and affect almost every area of legislative support to Congress by 2004. Rebuilding this capacity requires a multiyear learning period during which new staff develop the breadth and depth of knowledge of the specific issues as well as of the legislative process. To meet these challenges, CRS has developed a multiyear plan to begin hiring replacement staff. In fiscal 1999, Congress provided $435,858 to begin this hiring process, using the Graduate Recruit Program and the Law Recruit Program. The fiscal 2000 request seeks $559,052 to continue to hire staff to ensure the continuity of services to Congress, while remaining within the full-time equivalent level provided in the fiscal 1999 budget.

Security of Library Staff, Collections and Facilities

During 1998, the Library's House and Senate oversight committees approved our comprehensive Security Plan, and Congress approved supplemental appropriations totaling $16,975,000 for the Library's physical security. These two congressional actions provide a framework for the security of the Library's collections, facilities, staff, visitors and other assets. As a result, additional security measures will be put in place during fiscal years 1999 and 2000: the recruitment of additional police, the installation of entry screening equipment at all public entrances, the design and installation

of additional perimeter security enhancements and the design and development of an improved intrusion detection system. The Library is working with the Capitol Police and the Architect of the Capitol to complete a memorandum of understanding, which will ensure proper coordination of all security efforts.

The supplemental appropriations in fiscal 1999 did not provide additional funds for collections physical security initiatives. Thus, for the fiscal year 2000 budget, the Library is requesting an increase of $1,352,201 to support three key collections security enhancements.

- **Reader Registration.** The Library's Security Plan specifies, as a minimum standard, the identification of all patrons requesting material from the collections. The Library is requesting an increase of $466,791 to implement this minimum standard in all reading rooms.
- **Marking and Tagging Library Materials.** The Library's Security Plan specifies, as a minimum standard, the marking and tagging of most material. Congress approved and funded the marking and tagging of materials received via copyright deposit starting in fiscal 1999, and the Library requests $476,378 to expand marking and tagging to other sources of acquisitions (i.e., gifts, exchanges, purchases).
- **Contract Security Monitors.** The Library is requesting an increase of $370,188 to improve the enforcement of security standards by placing security monitors in five additional reading rooms where unique materials often of great value are used — Law, Geography and Map, Music, Prints and Photographs, and Rare Book and Special Collections. Contract security monitors are now used in the Manuscript and Main reading rooms to ensure that each patron is registered, enforce personal belongings restrictions, monitor the activities of visitors, and examine materials being removed. The Library asks that this successful program be expanded to these five additional important reading rooms.

Law Library

The Law Library of Congress maintains the largest collection of legal materials in the world and also houses a unique body of foreign-trained lawyers to supply legal research and analysis, primarily for the Congress, on the laws of other nations, international law and comparative law. More than 200 jurisdictions are covered by Law Library specialists, some 80 percent of the sovereign entities of the world that issue laws and regulations. The Law Library utilizes this talent to maintain and develop the breadth and depth of a demanding collection, as well as to provide reference services whenever either chamber is in session (as mandated by the Congress). These are daunting responsibilities. The U.S. Courts, the executive branch, and the legal community also depend heavily on the Law Library's collections.

The Law Library has been creative in attempting to meet its responsibilities, particularly with the development of its Global Legal Information Network, but funding for 8.5 FTEs ($548,852) is crucially required. The funding would ensure adequate staffing for research and reference services, improve the security of the rare book room collections, and improve book retrieval services. The Law Library is also requesting $188,250 for contractual services to maintain the filing of looseleaf inserts. The integrity and currency of legal publications — which contain laws, administrative rules and regulations, and legal interpretations — must be maintained to be of continuing value to Congress.

Copyright Office

The Library's Copyright Office promotes creativity and effective copyright protection — annually processing more than 650,000 claims (representing more than 850,000 copies of works transferred to the Library), of which 550,000 claims are registered for copyright. The Copyright Office also responds annually to more than 395,000 requests for information.

On July 1, 1999, the Copyright Office plans to increase its filing fees and other statutory fee services. The new schedule of proposed fees was presented to Congress for consideration at the beginning of February. The basic filing fee for registering a claim will increase from $20 to $30, and other statutory fees, such as those for filing renewals or recording a document, will also increase. These increases, coupled with the fee changes for special services which went into effect July 1, 1998, represent increases in some cases of as much as 225 percent. We expect fee increases to boost the Office's receipts by $4.8 million in fiscal year 2000. The new fee structure should provide 70 percent cost recovery for registration, recordation and related services. The Register's statement provides a more detailed explanation of the proposed increase.

The ability of the Copyright Office to serve the nation effectively requires restructuring and streamlining operations. The Library requests approval to use part of the additional receipts ($694,212) to redesign the workflow and to bolster its core staff of examiners, which will ensure the timely processing of claims for registration. To improve public service, efficiency, security, cash management and contain costs, the Copyright Office must redesign its workflow and hire additional examiners.

The Library also requests authority to use part of the additional receipts to fund further growth of the CORDS effort ($143,988, see automation building blocks) and to fund newly imposed storage costs ($268,204) levied by the National Archives and Records Administration.

National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

The Library administers a 67-year-old cooperative effort with state and local agencies and the United States Postal Service to provide free braille and recorded materials for blind and physically handicapped persons. The Library selects and produces full-length books and magazines in braille and on recorded disc and cassette and provides special playback equipment. We distribute reading materials and playback machines to a network of cooperating regional and subregional (local) libraries, who circulate those materials to eligible borrowers and returned to libraries by postage-free mail.

The fiscal year 2000 budget maintains program services by funding mandatory pay and price level increases totaling $1,209,000. The budget also supports the exploration of alternative digital technological possibilities that would provide a less costly, more efficient, internationally acceptable, user-friendly delivery system.

Library Buildings and Grounds

The Architect of the Capitol (AOC) is responsible for the structural and mechanical care and maintenance of the Library's buildings and grounds.

In coordination with the Library, the AOC has requested a capital budget of $9,405,000, an increase of $6,238,000. The AOC capital budget includes funding for six projects totaling $6,350,000 in appropriations, that were requested by the Library. Library-requested projects, as well as AOC identified projects, are prioritized based on critical need and in accordance with both the Library's Strategic and Security Plans. The six projects support four important areas:

(1) the security of our collections by providing additional electronic card readers, alarm devices and other protections ($1,400,000);

(2) the preservation of the Library's collections as a result of improved environmental conditions for exhibit space ($450,000);

(3) the support for and oversight of initial construction efforts at the National Audio-visual Conservation Center ($500,000); and

(4) the acquisition of additional storage space by funding a second collections storage module at Fort Meade, Md. ($4,000,000). Properly storing the Library's collections in secure, safe and environmentally sound facilities is the most important step toward preserving our collections for future generations.

I urge the Committee to support the Architect's Library Buildings and Grounds budget and his position that reinvestment in the existing infrastructure is necessary and a prudent measure for the long-term support of legislative branch operations.

Audio-Visual Conservation Center

The Library's House and Senate oversight committees have approved a Master Plan option for the renovation of the National Audio-Visual Conservation Center in Culpeper, Va., which provides for the donor to retain ownership of the center through Phase I (2001). As a result, the Library requests an increase of $290,000 to fund fiscal 2000 operating costs, which are estimated to be $509,000. When ownership of the center is transferred to the AOC, these operating costs will be reallocated between the AOC and the Library, in accordance with normal Library Buildings and Grounds budget practices. In August 1998, the Library began to store film at the center.

National Film Preservation Foundation

The Library is requesting an increase of $250,000 to fund the government's matching grant in accordance with section 209 of Public Law 104-285. To date, the National Film Preservation Foundation has received pledges totaling $1.2 million ($500,000 in actual receipts) from private persons and state and local governments. The $250,000 increase would fund the government's matching share and support the preservation of our film heritage.

James Madison Building Workstation Modernization Project

The Library is requesting an increase of $1,528,000 to begin a five-year accelerated workstation modernization project in the James Madison Building. We have replaced employee workstations in the Thomas Jefferson and John Adams buildings with modern furniture and equipment as a result of the renovation project.

Furniture and equipment installed 20 years ago in the James Madison Building, during an era of typewriters and long before the introduction of personal computers, must now be replaced to provide for ergonomically correct workstations in all three of the Library's Capitol Hill buildings. Poor workstation design contributes to the risk of injuries and lower staff productivity. An increase is required to complete the project within five years instead of the 16-plus years the current level of resources would require.

Proposed Legislation

During the 105th Congress, the Library's oversight and appropriations committees agreed upon authorizing legislation for the American Folklife Center (AFC) and the National Audio-Visual Conservation Center. The Library is moving expeditiously to secure all appointments to the AFC board and to realize the master plan for the Culpeper site approved last December. During the last Congress, we also secured legislation for a commemorative coin to be issued in April 2000 in observance of the Library's Bicentennial. In discussing the Library's plans for its Bicentennial with our oversight committees, we stressed the continuing need for the Library to have improved statutory authority for its revolving and reimbursable funds. The 105th Congress approved a revolving fund to improve the accountability and statutory basis for the Cooperative Acquisitions Program. We will be seeking similar authority during this Congress to address the business operating needs of the Federal Research Division and FEDLINK, each of which serves a wide constituency within the federal government. The bill is our top legislative priority for the 106th Congress. Passage of such legislation would address a critical element of our five-year legislative plan to improve and stabilize the Library's business operations.

Office of Inspector General

The Library requests an increase of $139,343 to fund two professional auditors in the Office of the Inspector General. The two auditors would concentrate on reviews of the Library's physical security and automated systems, both areas of critical importance to our operations.

The Library's Bicentennial

The Library will use its Bicentennial in the year 2000 less to celebrate our past than to leave a legacy for the future. We have crafted — almost entirely with privately raised funds — a multifaceted Bicentennial Program "to inspire creativity in the years ahead by stimulating greater use of the Library of Congress and libraries everywhere." Bicentennial projects include: reconstituting Thomas Jefferson's original library; a "Favorite Poem" project spearheaded by the Library's Poet Laureate; a national photography contest, "Beyond Words: Celebrating America's Libraries," jointly conducted with the American Library Association; and a "Local Legacies" project to document unique local traditions from congressional districts throughout the nation for possible inclusion in the American Folklife Center's collections.

The kick-off event later this year for the Bicentennial will be a symposium on the *Frontiers of the Mind in the 21st Century,* which will bring together at the Library leading thinkers in various disciplines to talk about the way their field will change in the 21st century. The concept of "Gifts to the Nation" is central to the Bicentennial effort ... ◆

Ms. Fineberg is editor of The Gazette, *the Library's staff newspaper.*

News from the Center for the Book

Hass to Host 'River of Words' Program on May 8

Former Poet Laureate Robert Hass returns to the Library of Congress on Saturday, May 8, to moderate a program honoring the student winners of the fourth annual "River of Words" Environmental Poetry & Art Contest. The program, featuring a display of artworks by their creators and poetry readings by the winning authors, will take place at 2:30 p.m. in the Mumford Room on the sixth floor of the James Madison Memorial Building. It is free and open to the public.

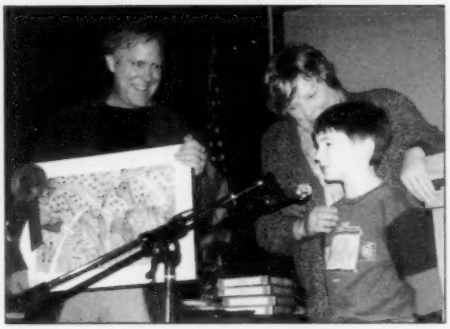
Mr. Hass co-founded River of Words with Pamela Michael, who serves as project director. The International Rivers Network and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress are the cosponsors. The contest, which focuses on the theme of "watersheds," is open to young artists and poets from 5 to 19 years of age. Eight grand prizes, four in poetry and four in art, are awarded. The grand prize winners and one international winner receive a trip to Washington, accompanied by a parent. Last year, several thousand children in 44 states and 10 countries submitted artwork and poems about their own natural surroundings. State centers for the book in Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico are River of Words participants, and more state centers are expected to become sponsors in the future.

"This has been a record year for entries," said Ms. Michael. "There may be as many as 10,000. We won't know until the sorting ends." The deadline in the United States was Feb. 15; international entries were accepted until March 15.

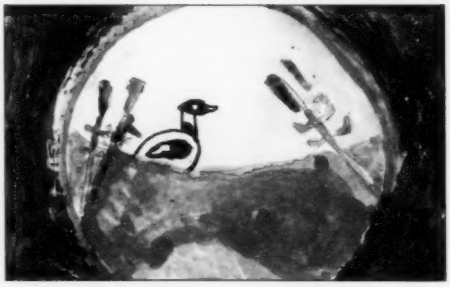
"We are trying to alert kids to the natural world and its connection to artistic expression and the human spirit," said Mr. Hass, who served as U.S. Poet Laureate from 1995 to 1997 and whose conference on "Watersheds" at the Library of Congress helped inspire the River of Words poetry and art contest.

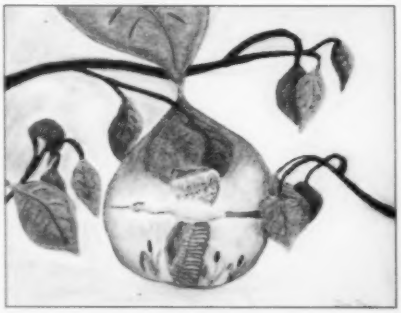
Contest guidelines and booklets and a teacher's guide are available from River of Words, International Rivers Network, P.O. Box 4000-J, Berkeley, CA 94704, telephone: (510) 433-7020, fax: (510) 848-1008, e-mail: row@irn.org. The River of Words Web site (www.irn.org) provides more information. It contains dozens of winning poems and works of art and a database of more than 4,000 community organizations that are potential partners for local River of Words projects.

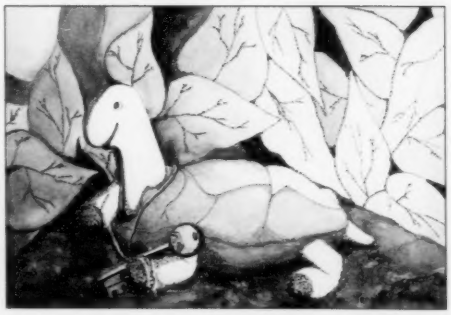
River of Words is supported by contributions from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the Center for Ecoliteracy, the Library of America, Magnetic Poetry, the Rhode Island Foundation, American Airlines and Robin and Marsha Williams.



Robert Hass and Pamela Michael congratulate Alex Schneble, winner of a 1998 Grand Prize for Art, at the Library of Congress last year.







Previous prize-winning art includes (from upper right) "The Night," Alex Schneble (Grade 2), Issaquah, Wash.; "Seeing the Pond from the Pipe," Emily Forbes (Kindergarten), Kennesaw, Ga.; "Key to the River," Jennifer Brisson (Grade 8), Clarkton, N.C.; "Watershed of the Forest," Dina Bassin (Grade 10), Fairlawn, N.J.

■ **Virginia Celebrates Its Authors.** More than 250 people attended the first Library of Virginia Awards Honoring Virginia Authors and Friends, held on Sept. 19, 1998. The Library of Virginia, the Virginia Center for the Book and the Virginia Library Foundation were the sponsors. Center for the Book Program Officer Maurvene D. Williams represented the Library of Congress at the festivities. Poet Charles Wright, this year's winner of the Pulitzer Prize for poetry, won the prize for fiction for *Black Zodiac*. Historian James I. Robertson Jr. received the nonfiction award for his biography, *Stonewall Jackson: The Man, The Soldier, The Legend*. The late Ellen Glasgow, a Richmonder who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1941, was recognized for her lifetime achievement. Each author and a Glasgow representative received awards of $1,000 as well as a crystal sculpture of a book. Richmond philanthropist Clinton Webb IV was honored for his contributions to the Library of Virginia.

"It was a wonderful event and we expect to top it with the second awards ceremony on Sept. 18, 1999," said Virginia Center for the Book Executive Director Deborah L. Hocutt.

The Virginia Center for the Book's mission is "to create a greater awareness and appreciation of books, reading and the literary heritage of the commonwealth." With support from Librarian of Virginia Nolan Yelich, Ms. Hocutt and the center's board of advisers have undertaken several initiatives to strengthen the Virginia Center for the Book and its statewide role. It is actively involved in the annual Virginia Festival of the Book. The Virginia Authors Room, dedicated on Nov. 6, 1997, helps preserve the state's literary heritage — as does the Virginia Authors database. Interactive teleconferences bring award-winning Virginia authors to classrooms and statewide audiences. Featured authors in 1998 were Mary Lee Settle and Charles Wright. On Jan. 20, 1999, Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky led an educational teleconference with more than 100 secondary-school students.

Best-selling author David Baldacci and Virginia Center for the Book Executive Director Deborah Hocutt at the Library of Virginia legislative reception, Jan. 21, 1999. Mr. Baldacci is a member of VCB's advisory board.

A recent development is the creation of regional Virginia Center for the Book affiliates in the Fairfax County, Charlottesville and Virginia Beach areas. The center's "20th Century Virginia Authors" map and brochure continue to be popular tools for highlighting the state's literary heritage. It is available for $7 from the Library of Virginia Shop, telephone (804) 692-3524.

For information about the Virginia Center for the Book and its activities, contact executive director Deborah Hocutt, Library of Virginia, 800 E. Broad St., Richmond, VA 23219, telephone (804) 692-4184, fax (804) 692-3736, e-mail: dhocutt@leo.vsla.edu, Web site: leo.vsla.edu/center/center.html.

■ **Colorado Hosts the Rocky Mountain Book Festival.** In the Denver Merchandise Mart on Nov. 7-8, 1998, the Colorado Center for the Book, in collaboration with many statewide and local sponsors, presented the sixth annual Rocky Mountain Book Festival. Maurvene Williams represented the Center for the Book. "A highlight was our presentation of the most extensive poetry program in the festival's history," said Colorado Center for the Book Director Chris Citron. "In addition to a Favorite Poem event, in collaboration with the Utah Arts Council, we undertook an unprecedented collaboration that brought together four regional poets laureate for readings: Mary Crow [Colorado], Robert Ripaugh [Wyoming], William Kloefkorn [Nebraska] and David Lee [Utah]."

More than 200 authors and thousands of book lovers took part in dozens of events and activities, including writing workshops, poetry contests, readings, panel discussions and workshops. The panel "Women Writing the West" was filmed by C-SPAN2 for its nationally broadcast "BookTV" program. Chautauqua performances presented by the Colorado Endowment for the Humanities that featured performances and conversations with great writers of the past, including Geoffrey Chaucer, Mark Twain, Mary Wollstonecraft, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Malcolm X, James Thurber, Isabella Bird, Emily Dickinson, Willa Cather and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Supporters of the festival also included the Rocky Mountain Public Broadcasting Network, the Colorado State Library, Barnes & Noble, Random House, *The Denver Post* and *The Bloomsbury Review*.

For information about the Colorado Center for the Book and its activities, contact executive director Chris Citron, 2123 Downing St., Denver, CO 80205, telephone: (303) 839-8324, fax: (303) 839-8319, e-mail: ccftb@compuserve.com, Web site: www.aclin.org/-ccftb/. ◆

Colorado Center for the Book

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